



# Senior Paper Pathfinder

Resources available through SHS Library

<http://www.spackenkillschools.org/shs/library/assignments/english/pathfinders>



## I. Print Materials

*The New York Times* and the *Poughkeepsie Journal* are available to read in the library. They are also available online. See the Passcode handout.



Click on the “[Library Catalog](#)” icon on [SHS Library Webpage](#)

Try different searches, broadening or narrowing your search:

- A. **General Nonfiction Books** - Books available for a three-week checkout period.
- B. **Reference Books** - Reference Books are typically available for Library Use Only.
- C. **Ebooks** - Ebooks can be read 24/7 in their entirety on a computer. Passwords may be required.

## II. Databases

### Specialized databases

- The Assignment Resources pages for Art, Science and Social Studies contain links to databases for many subject areas. Use these for fewer, more **targeted** results.



### Gale Power Search

- Search up to 46 Gale databases at once! Locate articles from newspapers, magazines, scholarly journals, and reference books.

**Gale Power Search** can be accessed at home: Password: spack



### ProQuest Direct

- [Access](#) full-text articles from newspapers, magazines, scholarly journals, and reference books.

**ProQuest Direct** can be accessed at home: Account ID: SRD2KC8KBN Password: welcome



### Opposing Viewpoints in Context

- Allows you to search pro/con articles on controversial topics in newspapers, magazines, journals, reference books, primary sources and Opposing Viewpoints books. Many Opposing Viewpoints titles are also available in our library for checkout.
- Be sure to use the links on the left to narrow your search by source type: Viewpoints, Images, Reference, News, Statistics, Magazines, Academic Journals, Primary Sources, Websites, etc.

**Opposing Viewpoints in Context** can be accessed at home: Password: spack



### Student Resources in Context

- Allows you to search for reference books, magazines, newspapers, primary documents, and multimedia files on your topic.
- Click on “Advanced Search,” then type your search words in the search boxes.
- Be sure to use the links on the left to narrow your search by source type: Reference, Magazines, Newspapers, Academic Journals, Primary Sources, etc.

**Student Resources in Context** can be accessed at home: Password: spack



## Issues & Controversies

- Allows you to search pro/con articles on controversial topics.
- Be sure to check out all tabs: Featured Articles, Editorial Cartoons, By the Numbers, Reference Shelf.

**Issues and Controversies** can be accessed at home: Account ID: spack Password: spack



## Congressional Digest's Pro and Con Online

- Gives you access to the archives of *Congressional Digest*, *Supreme Court Debates & International Debates*.
- Read journal articles written for Congressional Digest, excerpts from Congressional hearings, press statements, and more.

**Congressional Digest** can be accessed at home: Account ID: 2530 Password: spack



## JSTOR

- Search through articles in hundreds of scholarly journals.

**JSTOR** can be accessed at home: Username: Spackenkill Password: Spackenkill

### III. Recommended Search Engines

Use these evaluated Search Engine sites to find reputable sources for your research.

Be sure to try: [SweetSearch](#), [infotopia](#), [ipl2](#), and [Virtual LRC.com](#). No passwords needed!

Additionally, search for your topic in: [Google Scholar](#) and/or [Google Books](#)

### Remember to evaluate the sources that you find!

*Once you have found an article you must evaluate it. Consider the following during your evaluation:*

- **Author** - Is the author respected in his/her field? Is he/she an authority on the topic, having great skill or knowledge on the particular subject? Where is he/she employed? What is his/her educational background and qualifications?
- **Date of publication / currency** - Is the information current or out of date? Certain topics of research, such as science, require the most current information. Are the hyperlinks working properly? If not, this indicates the site was not updated recently.
- **Publication** - Is the publication (magazine, journal, newspaper, book) reputable?
- **Publisher** - Who published the work? Are they reputable?
- **What type of publication is it?** (e.g., journals are more scholarly than magazines)
- **Audience** - Who is the intended audience? Is it for a general audience or a specific one? Is the focus appropriate for your research paper?
- **Accuracy** - Can the information be verified in other respected sources? Is there correctness in every detail, precision, and exactness?
- **Bias** - If the author expresses an opinion does it affect the accuracy of the information?